

BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)



ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1969

1969

Mayor:

Councillor P. F. CHAFFE

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

J. CALDWELL

L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. G. REESON

F.I.A.S., M.I.P.H.E., M.B.I., C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

G. D. VAIL

M.I.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Meat Inspector:

A. WILKS

M.Inst.M., L.M.R.S.H.



GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	..	..	..	..	..	2,326 acres
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£294,573
Value of Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£1,224
Number of inhabited houses (approx.)	..	..	..	..	..	2,049
Population	..	..	..	..	..	5,860

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969**

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors of the Borough of
St. Ives.

Your Worship and Members of the Council:

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1969.

Vital Statistics

Population: The estimated mid-year population rose by 360 this year to 5,860. This is in line with what one would expect bearing in mind the residential development which has been taking place within the Borough.

Birth Rate: There were 30 fewer births credited to the Borough in 1969 as compared with the previous year and this results in a considerable fall in the birth rate. In 1968 the locally adjusted figure was 23.4 and this year the rate is 17.2 per 1,000 population.

Death Rate: 70 residents in the Borough died during the year — 8 fewer than in 1968. The locally adjusted death rate is given as 12.7 per 1,000 population as compared with 15.6 the previous year. 16% of deaths were caused by malignant disease and 61% by cardio vascular disorders.

Infant Mortality: Two infants died before reaching the aged of 1 year thus giving an infant mortality rate of 17 per 1,000 live births. This rate is comparable to the figure for England and Wales as a whole (18.0).

Infectious Disease: Notifiable infectious disease was minimal during the year when only 7 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered.

Measles was conspicuous by its absence this year, the last outbreak of this condition having occurred between October 1967 and June 1968. Vaccination of infants against this condition has no doubt contributed to the improved situation and in years to come Measles may figure less and less prominently in the list of infectious diseases if a vaccination programme is pursued.

Social Conditions

Hospital Facilities: Since the publication of the Bonham Carter Report the Council has expressed its concern that plans for the new hospital in Huntingdon may be abandoned. Meetings with representatives of Planning Authorities have been held when general concern was expressed at the possibility that the present hospital at Huntingdon would be reduced to the status of a 'peripheral unit'.

Further joint discussions between the Local Authorities are planned to take place in the near future.

Housing: Unfortunately the scheme for the provision of accommodation for elderly persons did not proceed as expected, however negotiations are proceeding with the Local Planning Authority to obtain permission to erect this dwelling on an alternative site.

The 22 dwellings for key workers were commenced and the Estate was extended to include a further 18 dwellings. All of these dwellings will be completed during 1970.

The addition of a further Public Health Inspector in this staff enabled the Slum Clearance project to be accelerated.

Two compulsory purchase orders were made, both of which were subject to Ministerial enquiry.

Further reports were submitted to the Council resulting in one closure order and two compulsory purchase orders to be submitted to the Ministry during 1970.

The additional Public Health Inspector has assisted in the duties enforced under the Food and Drugs Acts and a closer supervision of food handlers has been possible.

Main Drainage: The schemes for the provision of Main Drainage in the Westward Road area and also in the Northern part of Ramsey Road both proceeded satisfactorily and it is anticipated that both schemes will have been completed in the early part of 1970.

The drying of sewage at the Sewage Disposal Works continues to cause concern but a scheme has met with Ministerial approval to provide a Mechanical Drying Machine to deal with the problem.

In conclusion I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Reeson and all other members of the Department's staff for the assistance they have given me and for all the work they have done during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CALDWELL

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1969

Estimated mid year population	..	..	..	5,860
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Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	59	54	113
Illegitimate	2	—	2
	—	—	—
Totals	61	54	115
	—	—	—

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	..	..	19.6
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (.88)			17.2
Birth rate per 1,000 population	..	..	16.3
(England and Wales)			

Still Births			
Legitimate	3	—	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Totals	3	—	3
	—	—	—

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..	25
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births			13
(England and Wales)			

Deaths			
	25	45	70
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	..	..	11.9
Death rate corrected by comparability factor			
(1.07)	..	..	12.7
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population			
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	..	..	11.9
(England and Wales)			

Infant Mortality — Deaths of Infants under 1 year			
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	1	1	2
	—	—	—

Infant mortality rate (Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	..	..	17
Infant mortality rate (England and Wales)	..	..	18

Table classifying deaths under age groups

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 4 weeks	—	—	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	1	1	2
1 year and under 5 years	—	—	—
5 and under 15 years	1	—	1
15 and under 25 years	1	—	1
25 and under 35 years	—	—	—
35 and under 45 years	—	1	1
45 and under 55 years	3	2	5
55 and under 65 years	5	5	10
65 and under 75 years	3	8	11
75 years and over	11	28	39
	—	—	—
Totals	25	45	70
	—	—	—

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The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the Borough over the past five years:

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Population	4,850	5,000	5,170	5,500	5,860
Births					
Total live births	114	124	110	145	115
Crude birth rate	23.5	24.8	21.3	26.4	19.6
Area comparability factor	.88	.88	.88	.87	.88
Corrected birth rate	20.7	21.8	18.7	23.4	17.2
Birth rate (England and Wales)	18.1	17.7	17.2	16.9	16.3
Deaths					
Total deaths	46	52	55	78	70
Crude death rate	9.5	10.4	10.6	14.2	11.9
Area comparability factor	1.23	1.19	1.2	1.1	1.07
Corrected death rate	11.7	12.4	12.7	15.6	12.7
Death rate (England and Wales)	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9	11.9

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING 1969

					Total cases notified
Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	7
Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	—
Measles	..	..	..	..	—
Typhoid fever	..	..	..	..	—
Paratyphoid fever	..	..	..	..	—
Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	—
Infective hepatitis	..	..	..	..	—
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	—
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	1
					—
Total	..	..	..	..	8
					—

CAUSES OF DEATHS

(Registrar General's List)

List No.	Causes	Male	Female
B19(2)	Malignant neoplasm — oesophagus	—	1
B19(3)	Malignant neoplasm — stomach	1	—
B19(6)	Malignant neoplasm — lung, bronchus	3	1
B19(7)	Malignant neoplasm — breast	—	2
B19(8)	Malignant neoplasm — uterus	—	1
B19(9)	Malignant neoplasm — prostate	2	—
B21	Diabetes mellitus	—	1
B26	Chronic rheumatic heart disease	—	1
B28	Ischaemic heart disease	8	5
B29	Other forms of heart disease	4	11
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	2	8
B46(5)	Other diseases of circulatory system	1	3
B32	Pneumonia	1	5
B46(7)	Other diseases of digestive system	—	1
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1
B45	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	—	1
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	2	—
BE48	All other accidents	1	—
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	—	3
		—	—
Total all causes		25	45
		—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register at 31st December, 1969 .. 17					
Pulmonary .. 17			Non-pulmonary .. —		
New cases — diagnosed			No new cases transferred in		
Age periods	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		
	M	F	M	F	
0 ..	..				
1 ..	..				
5 ..	..				
10 ..	..				
15 ..	..	1	—	—	
25 ..	..				
35 ..	..				
45 ..	..				
55 ..	..				
65 and upwards					
Totals ..	.. 1	—	—	—	

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities

The following laboratory facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in the area:

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge. (Tel. Cambridge 55526)

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph.d., B.Sc., F.I.C.)

Tenison Road, Cambridge. (Tel. Cambridge 2097)

(b) Ambulance Services

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders.

(Tel. Huntingdon 3348)

(c) Home Nursing

Nurse/Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council carried out home nursing and attended maternity cases in the Borough.

(d) Clinic and Treatment Centres

(i) The following services were provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council:

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	Every Monday 9.30-10.30 a.m.	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 years)	Every Friday 2-4 p.m. 1st and 3rd Wednesday in month 2-4 p.m.	Health Centre Ramsey Road St. Ives
Dental	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	by appointment	Health Centre Ramsey Road St. Ives
	Pre-Natal and Nursing Mothers	by appointment	Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

(ii) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board:

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday 9.30-12.30 p.m. 2-3 p.m.	County Hospital Huntingdon
Venereal Disease	All cases	Tuesday from 2-6 p.m. Thursday from 2-6 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge
	Males	Monday from 5 p.m. Wed. from 5.30 p.m.	Out-Patients' Department Memorial Hospital
	Females	Tues. from 10.30 a.m. Thurs. from 4.30 p.m.	Peterborough
Orthopaedic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	2nd and 4th Tuesday 10 a.m.-12 noon and by appointment	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	By appointment	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Obstetrical, Paediatric, Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patients Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) **Hospital Services**

Fever: Cases of Infectious Disease requiring hospital treatment were admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough and Ely.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Maternity Unit, Primrose Lane, Huntingdon and Maternity Hospital, Mill Road, Cambridge.

Clinics run by the Family Planning Association are held at the Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon every Wednesday evening 7-8.30 p.m., and at the Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St. Neots, every Tuesday evening 7-8.30 p.m. and the 1st and 3rd Thursday from 9.30-11.30 a.m., and at the Child Health Centre, Ramsey Road, St. Ives on the 2nd and 4th Monday from 9.30-11 a.m.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969

WATER SUPPLIES

Both quantity and quality have again been satisfactory and there have been no complaints received during the year.

Two samples have been taken from two properties using well water. Both were unsatisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Again, considerable difficulty has been experienced with the disposal of sludge and unsatisfactory, temporary, makeshift methods have had to be adopted.

The Council decided to purchase a Lynx three disc filter which will deal with the sludge daily and this should be extremely satisfactory.

It is hoped that the Westwood and Ramsey Roads extensions will be completed and in use by the end of 1970.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Only minor works have been carried out on streams.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council commenced the collection of refuse in the Borough on the 29th September, 1969, and many teething troubles arose, but these will subside and an efficient service should ensue.

SWIMMING POOL

The scheme for the provision of a joint swimming pool was commenced and good progress made. It is hoped that the pool will be in use before the Autumn of 1970.

SHOP ACTS

No infringements have been found during the year.

CARAVANS

The works necessary to comply with the Site Licence were mostly complied with and only a few minor matters remained outstanding.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

No complaints have been received during the year in connection with smoke nuisances.

BED BUGS

No reports of infestation by bed bugs have been received and no premises found to be infested.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The Contract for the inspection for and the destruction of rats and mice was renewed for the year. No complaints of the service have been received.

PETROLEUM ACTS

The number of Licences issued during the year was as follows:

Over 1,000 gallons		3
500-1,000 gallons ..		5
Under 500 gallons ..		8

All have been checked for compliance with the electrical requirements where electricity was involved.

NOISE ABATEMENT

It has not been necessary to take any formal action for noise abatement during the year.

DANGEROUS BUILDINGS

No properties were considered to be dangerous during the year, but two reported in 1968 were demolished in 1969.

GENERAL NUISANCES

Formal Notices were served for the abatement of nuisances caused by (a) accumulation of manure and (b) pollution of a ditch. At the end of the year these had not been abated.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

One Firm is registered under the above Act.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of premises Registered under the above Act are as follows:

Offices	..	..	..	..	..	35
Retail Shops	..	..	..	..	..	42
Wholesale Warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	5
Catering Establishments	..	..	..	..	..	2

RODENT CONTROL

Number of complaints received	..	..	74
Number of visits made	..	..	160

A ten per cent test baiting of sewers was also undertaken.

HOUSING

(a) **New Housing:** The number of new houses built during the year was as follows:

Council	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Private	..	..	..	..	..	105

(b) **Overcrowding:** No cases of overcrowding have been found during the year.

(c) **Slum Clearance**

Number of houses reported unfit	..	21
Number of houses unfit where Demolition Orders were made	..	3
Number of houses unfit where Closing Orders were made	..	3
Number of houses where undertakings to repair were agreed	..	1
Number of houses included in Clearance Areas	..	14

(d) **Grants**

	Standard	Discretionary
Applications received	3	5
Applications approved	3	3
Application refused	–	2

FACTORIES ACTS

Some new factories have been established on the Industrial Estate and the Inspections under the Factories Act are as follows:

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6		3	Nil	Nil
(2) Section 7		34	Nil	Nil
Total	42	37	Nil	Nil

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) **Meat:** The following Table shows the number of animals killed, carcasses inspected, and meat condemned at the Abattoir:

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs and Sows
Number killed	4,960	59	4,271	18,756
Number inspected	4,960	59	4,271	18,756

(All diseases except tuberculosis):-

Whole carcasses condemned	10	—	11	31
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	9	149
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	.25	—	.44	.96

(Tuberculosis only):-

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	.0285

Cysticercosis:-

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

During the year a total weight of 22 tons 12 cwt. 7 stn. 9 lbs. of meat and offal was condemned at the Abattoir.

(b) **Poultry:**

Number of Poultry processing premises within district	..	..	1
Number of visits made	..	..	70
Total number of birds processed during 1969	..	..	1,302,437
Type of birds processed	..	..	Hens
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit			.8

Weight of poultry condemned as unfit	30,287 lb.
Number of birds condemned as unfit	10,433
Average weight	2.99 lb.

- (c) **Shop Inspections:** All food shops have been inspected under the Food Hygiene Regulations and Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Acts, and the following food has been condemned as being unfit:

Corned Beef	96 lb.
Ham	11.5 lb.
Luncheon Meat	70 lb.
Cherries	28 lb.
Sausages	14.5 lb.
Sausage Rolls	No. 12
Meat Pies	No. 27
Pasties	No. 6
Mousse	No. 14
Cheese	1 lb.
Sponges	No. 7
Eclairs	No. 3
Orange juice	No. 6
Arctic Rolls	No. 3
Puff Pastry	No. 2
Peach Delight	No. 8
Packs of Raspberries	No. 2
Gateau	No. 1
Ice Cream	No. 1
Soups	No. 22
Pork Salut.	No. 2
Cottage Cheese	No. 2

- (d) **Ice Cream:** There are fifteen shops registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, and there are no manufacturers.

- (e) **Prosecutions:** The following prosecutions were taken with the results shown:

- (1) Retailer for displaying strawberries unfit for human consumption — £10 fine plus £25 costs.
- (2) Stallholder for smoking whilst serving open food — £5 fine.
- (3) Retailer for selling flour and packet mixes unfit for human consumption — £25 fine plus £20 costs.
- (4) Manufacturer for selling bread unfit for human consumption — £15 fine plus £12 costs.

The Ridley Press, St. Ives, Huntingdon, PE17 4AD